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- (i) a battery receiving portion integral with the handle portion, the battery receiving portion having at least one guide channel and battery contacts disposed therein;
 - (ii) a battery having an attachment portion integral with the battery, the attachment portion having at least one guide rail and being constructed and arranged for engaging the battery receiving portion such that
 - a. the battery terminals engage the battery contacts, and
 - b. the at least one guide channel and the at least one guide rail interlock;
 - (iii) a closure member operable with and transversely disposed at least partially within the battery receiving portion and configured to secure the battery within the battery receiving portion, the closure member having a lock position and a release position, the closure member including first and second opposite ends, the first end being exposed through a wall of the tool housing and defining a movable release arrangement for selectively moving the closure member from the lock position to the release position, thereby allowing the battery to be easily removed from the power tool.

9. (Once Amended) The power tool of claim 1, wherein:

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- (a) the power tool has a rear; and
 - (b) the attachment portion slidably engages the battery receiving portion from the rear of the power tool.

10. (Once Amended) A mechanism for releasably securing a battery having battery terminals to a power tool housing, the mechanism comprising:

- (a) a battery receiving portion integral with the power tool housing, the battery receiving portion having battery contacts disposed therein and further having at least one guide channel;
- (b) an attachment portion integral with the battery, the attachment portion having at least one guide rail and being constructed and arranged for engaging the battery receiving portion such that the battery terminals engage the battery contacts and the at least one guide channel and the at least one guide rail interlock;

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- (c) a closure member operable with and arranged substantially perpendicular to the battery receiving portion and configured to secure the battery within the battery receiving portion when the closure member is in a lock position and to disengage the battery when the closure member is in a release position, the closure member including:
- (i) first and second opposite ends;
 - (ii) a body portion;
 - (iii) a locking portion integral with and extending from the body portion substantially near the second end of the closure member, the locking portion being constructed and arranged for releasably securing the battery within the battery receiving portion when the battery is positioned within the battery receiving portion.

15. (Once Amended) A method of releasably securing a battery to a power tool housing, the method comprising the steps of:

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- (a) providing a battery receiving portion integral with the tool housing and being configured with at least one guide channel, the battery receiving portion being operable with a closure member at least partially disposed transversely within the battery receiving portion, the closure member having first and second opposite ends, the first end being exposed through a wall of the tool housing and defining a finger engaging portion for selectively moving the closure member from a lock position to a release position, the closure member being movably biased in the lock position;
 - (b) providing an attachment portion integral with the battery, the attachment portion being constructed and arranged for engaging the battery receiving portion, the attachment portion having at least one guide rail and;
 - (c) aligning the attachment portion with the battery receiving portion;
 - (d) moving the battery in a direction such that the attachment portion slidably engages the battery receiving portion;
 - (e) wherein the at least one guide channel in the battery receiving portion and the at least one guide rail on the attachment portion interlock; and

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- [(f) positioning the battery within the battery receiving portion such that the closure member moves away from the lock position and then, once the battery is inserted fully, to the to the lock position, thereby securing the battery to the power tool.

21 19. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein:

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- (a) the power tool has a rear; and
 - (b) the step of moving the battery in a first direction includes moving the battery in a first direction such that the attachment portion slidably engages the battery receiving portion from the rear of the power tool.

Claims 20 and 22 have been added as independent claims, and claims 21 and 23 have been added as a dependent claim as follows:

- 23 20. (New) A cordless power tool comprising a battery, the power tool comprising:
- (a) a battery receiving portion, integral with the power tool and having at least one guide channel;
 - (b) an attachment portion, integral with the battery and having at least one guide rail; and
 - (c) wherein the at least one guide channel in the battery receiving portion interlocks with the at least one guide rail on the attachment portion; and
 - (d) a closure member operable with and transversely disposed in relation to said battery receiving portion and attachment portion for releasably securing the battery in the power tool.

23 21. (New) The cordless power tool of claim 20, wherein:

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the battery receiving portion provides at least two guide channels;

the attachment portion provides at least two guide rails; and

the at least two guide channels in the battery receiving portion interlock with the at least two guide rails on the battery.

- [22. (New) A cordless power tool comprising a battery, the power tool comprising:
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- (a) a battery receiving portion, integral with the power tool and having at least one of a guide channel and a guide rail;
 - (b) an attachment portion, integral with the battery and having at least one of a guide rail and a guide channel; and
 - (c) wherein the at least one guide channel or guide rail in the battery receiving portion interlocks with the at least one guide rail or guide channel on the attachment portion; and
 - (d) a closure member operable with and transversely disposed in relation to said battery receiving portion and attachment portion for releasably securing the battery in the power tool.

23. (New) The cordless power tool of claim 22, wherein:
- the battery receiving portion provides at least two guide channels;
 - the attachment portion provides at least two guide rails; and
 - the at least two guide channels in the battery receiving portion interlock with the at least two guide rails on the battery.
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